CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: Getting Raped.JPG

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 1300432.028

Medium: Computer Image File

Publisher: Not stated

Country of origin: Not stated

Language: English

Applicant: The District Court at North Shore

Classification: Objectionable.

Descriptive note: None

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 07 June 2013

Date of direction to issue No direction to issue a label has been issued

a label:

Date of notice of decision: No notice of decision has been issued

Summary of reasons for decision:

The computer image file is deemed objectionable because it promotes and supports the use of violence or coercion to compel any person to participate in, or submit to, sexual conduct.

The image shows what appears to be a sexual attack on a semi-naked young woman. The title and a logo on the image frame the scenario as a rape. Viewers are intended to gain sexual pleasure from a sexualised image that shows brutal violence against a woman. Such material contributes to the formation and perpetuation of attitudes that lead to sexual violence.

The classification of this publication interferes with the right to freedom of expression set out in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention and is a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression. The classification reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to protect its members from sexual violence.